

Message Text

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TAGS: CSCE PFOR XG

SUBJ: CSCE-: POSITIONS OF ALLIES--PART 11-BELGIUM

1. IN RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST, WE TRANSMIT BELOW OUR CURRENT ESTIMATE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN WHICH BELGIUM HAS IN CSCE. WE HAVE NOT REPATE NOT ATTEMPTED TO ELABORATE ON SUBJECTS WHICH ARE OF GENERAL CONCERN TO ALL OR MOST NATO ALLIES, AND OF WHICH THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE.

2. PRINCIPLES--

A) GENERAL--BELGIUM SHARES GENERAL ALLIED GOALS OF PROTECTION OF WESTERN POSITIONS OF PRINCIPLE, ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO GERMANY AND BERLIN, AND ATTENUATION OF THE BREZHNEV DOCTRINE. BELGIAN REP IS OUTSPOKEN SUPPORTER OF THESE POSITIONS IN SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS, BUT IS MORE CONCERNED THAN HIS NETHERLANDS COLLEAGUE TO AVOID SHARP CONFRONTATIONS WITH SOVIETS.

3. MILITARY ASPECTS--

A) GENERAL--BELGIUM SHARES GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF NATO ALLIES TO HAVE SOME MODEST MILITARY CONTENT IN CSCE, IN FORM OF MEANINGFUL AGREEMENT ON CBMS.

B) MOVEMENTS--LIKE OTHER ALLIES, THE BELGIANS

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FAVOR A CBM ON MOVEMENTS, BUT ARE RESIGNED THAT THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, AND HOPE WE CAN AGREE TO A COMPROMISE FORMULATION TO COUNTER THE SOVIET PROPOSAL LINKING THE MOVEMENTS ISSUE TO FOLLOW-UP.

(C) NATURE OF COMMITMENT--LIKE OTHER ALLIES, BELGIUMS FAVOR UK FORMULATION FOR NATURE OF COMMITMENT ON CBMS (" HAVE DECIDED THAT THEY WILL...") AND DO NOT BELIEVE THIS ENTAILS A LEGAL OBLIGATION.

D) AIR AND NAVAL MANEUVERS--BELGIUM FAVORS NOTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT AIR AND NAVAL MANEUVERS.

4. ECONOMICS--EC-NINE SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE ON TRADE ISSUES, WHICH COMPRISE THE BULK OF ECONOMIC SUBJECTS IN CSCE. THEIR BASIC OBJECTION IS TO LIBERALIZE EASTERN TRADE REGIMES, WHILE RETAINING POSSIBILITIES FOR USE OF PROTECTIVE DEVICES AGAINST POTENTIALLY DAMAGING EASTERN TRADE PRACTICES.

5. BASKET III--

A) GENERAL--BELGIUM SHARES GENERAL ALLIED OBJECTIVES OF OBTAINING SOME MEANINGFUL FREER MOVEMENT PROVISIONS, PARTICULARLY UNDER HEADINGS OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION, MARRIAGE, TRAVEL, AUDIO-VISUAL INFORMATION, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS.

B) TRAVEL--BELGIUM AUTHORED THE WESTERN PROPOSAL FOR FACILITATING TRAVEL, AND HAS PUSHED IT STRONGLY.

C) INFORMATION--BELGIUM HAS ACTED AS AN UNOFFICIAL FLOOR LEADER (WITH THE NETHERLANDS) OF THE EC-NINE IN SUBCOMMITTEE ON INFORMATION, AND HAS THEREFORE SHOWN AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN ALL SUBJECTS UNDER THIS HEADING.

6. FOLLOW-UP--BELGIUM HAS ALIGNED ITSELF WITH THE FRENCH ON FOLLOW-UP, AND HAS FAVORED STICKING TO DANISH (EC-NINE) PROPOSAL FOR A PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOLLOWED BY A MEETING OF HIGH OFFICIALS TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF CONFERENCE RESULTS. DALE

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